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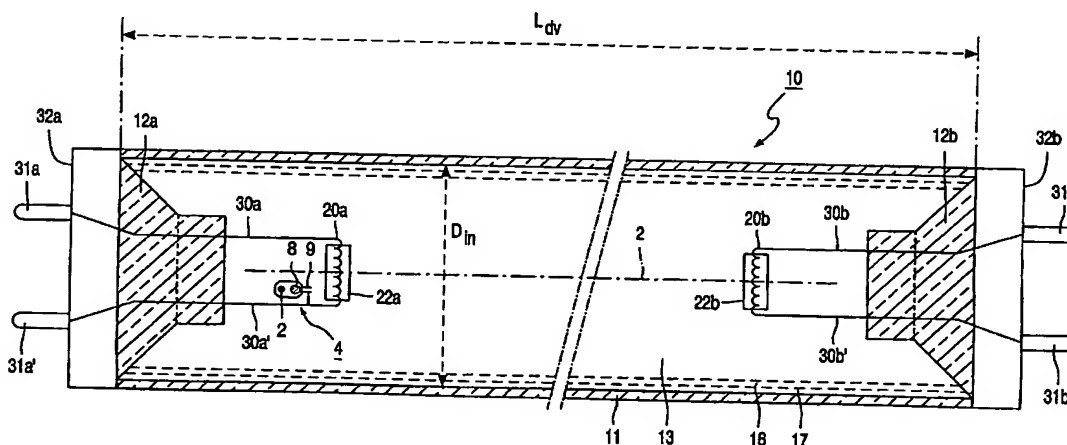
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(54) Title: **LOW-PRESSURE MERCURY VAPOR DISCHARGE LAMP**



(57) Abstract: Low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp comprises a light-transmitting discharge vessel (10) enclosing, in a gastight manner, a discharge space (13) provided with a filling of mercury and a rare gas. The discharge vessel comprises discharge means (20a; 20b) for maintaining a discharge in the discharge space. The discharge vessel is provided with a container comprising an amalgam (2). The container is provided with releasing means (4) for the controlled release of mercury vapor from the amalgam. The releasing means is open during lamp operation and is substantially closed when, during lamp operation, the temperature of the amalgam becomes higher than a pre-determined temperature. Preferably, the pre-determined temperature corresponds to a temperature of a range of temperatures at which the mercury-vapor pressure above the amalgam is relatively stable.



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